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# UM News

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## UM News

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# Classical Indian Dancer to Perform, Lead Workshop at UM

February 28, 2018

**MISSOULA** – The South and Southeast Asian Studies program and the School of Theatre & Dance at the University of Montana have partnered to bring a classical Indian dancer to campus for a free performance and dance workshop.

Kavita Thirumalai will perform a classical Indian Bharatanatyam dance from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday, March 11, in the Montana Theatre of the UM Performing Arts and Radio/TV Center. The performance is free and open to the public, and donations are welcome.



One element in the performance is based upon the life and work of Andal, an eighth-century female poet in South

India. Thirumalai also will lead a dance workshop from 1 to 2 p.m. Monday, March 12, in the PAR/TV Open Space, Room 005. Spectators are welcome.

The South and Southeast Asian Studies program focuses on India and the Thailand-Vietnam-Indonesia region, and it is the only program in Montana offering the Hindi language.

For more information email Ruth Vanita, UM South and Southeast Asian Studies program director, at [ruth.vanita@umontana.edu](mailto:ruth.vanita@umontana.edu).

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**Contact:** Ruth Vanita, director, UM South and Southeast Asian Studies program, 406-243-5793, [ruth.vanita@umontana.edu](mailto:ruth.vanita@umontana.edu).



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## UM News

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# Report: Visitors, Locals Drawn to Helena's South Hills Trail System

February 27, 2018

**MISSOULA** – More than 63,000 hikers, runners, walkers and bikers found their way to Helena's South Hills trail network in summer 2017, according to a recent report by University of Montana's Institute for Tourism and Recreation Research.

While the majority of users on foot and on bike are locals – 80 percent and 73 percent, respectively – the trail system serves as a significant draw and activity for visitors from across the state, country and even the world.

"Throughout the summer, we surveyed and counted users as they entered the hills to find out where they are from, how much they spent and other attributes about their use of the trails," said Jeremy Sage, ITRR associate director.

In total, nonlocal users spent \$4.03 million on goods and services in the area – \$1.4 million of which came from mountain bike users. This generates \$4.3 million in total economic activity, as well as 60 jobs that can be attributed to spending by visitors who recreate in the South Hills.

"Visit Helena Montana and Bike Helena marketing campaigns and promotions create a positive economic impact

for Helena businesses, and this research helps us measure the success of those efforts,” said Jennifer Davis, community outreach director with Helena Tourism Alliance. “The South Hills trail system is an asset to Helena and helps make Helena an attractive destination for tourists interested in hiking and mountain biking.”

“Helena has an amazing, accessible trail system that is priceless to me and my businesses,” said Helena business owner and resident Shalon Hastings. “I happily live a block below a trailhead on Mount Ascension and use the trails daily as a wake-up and stress relief. It’s rewarding to see out-of-towners taking advantage of our trails and coming into both of my businesses, Hub Coffee and Taco del Sol.”

The main Mount Helena trailhead serves as the primary access point for day hikers, with nearly 25,000 entries over the summer. For bikers, the Mount Helena Ridge and Arrowroot Drive trailheads are the prime entry points. The volume of users accessing these trails is boosted by routine shuttle service from downtown via the Trail Rider.

In addition to quantifying trail use, researchers with ITRR found that over half of Helena residents surveyed rated the trail system as very important to their quality of life, and 55 percent indicate they use the trails at least occasionally.

“It’s wonderful to see the high values placed on our work in building the South Hills land estate and establishing and maintaining the trails system with the city over the years,” said Mary Hollow, Prickly Pear Land Trust executive director. “PPLT strives for bettering quality-of-life benchmarks, and this real-time data provides important information to assist in our planning and understanding of the economic and social impacts of our South Hills land acquisition and trails work.”

While the average adult resident of Helena has lived in the area for many years and does not overwhelmingly consider the trail system a significant component of why they decided to live where they do, the research shows residents who moved to the area within the past five years give more weight to the influence of the trails on not only their decision to move to Helena, but also where in Helena they chose to live. This importance to these newer, and frequently younger, Helena residents suggests an opportunity for the area to enhance the attraction of new businesses and residents.

“While it’s no surprise that Helena’s trails are well-loved and well-used, it’s important to have real data that supports our assumptions,” said Helena Parks and Recreation Director Amy Teegarden. “Survey data is useful in responding to user trends, needs and expectations through adaptive management and planning. It’s important we recognize and embrace the increasing economic and social benefits the trail systems brings to the greater Helena community”.

Read the study report at [https://scholarworks.umt.edu/itrr\\_pubs/365/](https://scholarworks.umt.edu/itrr_pubs/365/). All information and reports published by ITRR are available online at <http://www.itrr.umt.edu>.

###

**Contact:** Norma Nickerson, director, UM Institute for Tourism and Recreation Research, 406-243-2328, [norma.nickerson@umontana.edu](mailto:norma.nickerson@umontana.edu); Jeremy Sage, economist and ITRR assistant director, 406-243-5552, [jeremy.sage@umontana.edu](mailto:jeremy.sage@umontana.edu).





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## UM News

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# Science Presentation to Use Language of Dance at UM

February 26, 2018

**MISSOULA** – A free scientific presentation at the University of Montana on Friday, March 2, will use the language of dance to highlight biodiversity.

Titled “Beautiful Weapons and the Diversity of Life,” the public event is scheduled for 4:30 p.m. in the Music Recital Hall of UM’s Music Building. It will be presented by the Gonzaga University Repertory Dance Co. and GU biology faculty member

Brook Swanson. Together they are touring university science and performing arts departments in the Pacific



Northwest this spring.

Swanson is a colleague of UM biology Professor Doug Emlen, who studies animal weaponry. Emlen’s research recently was featured in a 2017 BBC documentary titled “Nature’s Wildest Weapons,” and Swanson is an expert on the claws of fiddler crabs.

“This is a nontraditional scientific presentation, but I think it will be wonderful,” Emlen said. “I hope the public and our students turn out for this unique event.”

###

**Contact:** Doug Emlen, UM biology professor, 406-243-2535, [doug.emlen@mso.umt.edu](mailto:doug.emlen@mso.umt.edu); Susanne Ostersmith, , Gonzaga University Repertory Dance Co. dance director, [ostersmith@gonzaga.edu](mailto:ostersmith@gonzaga.edu).



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# UM's Campus Recreation Invites Climbers to 'Rock the Rec'

February 26, 2018

**MISSOULA** – The University of Montana's "Rock the Rec" climbing competition will take place from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, March 11, at Campus Recreation's Fitness & Recreation Center climbing wall.

The cost to climb is \$25 for Campus Recreation members or \$33 for nonmembers. Participants can register online at <http://register.campusrec.umt.edu/>.

This long-running annual competition is divided into beginner, intermediate and advanced categories for men and women. The competition requires participants to compete in both bouldering and roped climbing, drawing a variety of indoor, outdoor, bouldering and top rope climbers.

"It brings climbers of all levels, interests, shapes and sizes together to celebrate climbing," said Elizabeth Fricke, senior assistant director of the Outdoor Program.

Three days before "Rock the Rec," Outdoor Program staff will close the climbing wall and set approximately 20-30 new roped climbing routes and 30-40 new bouldering problems for the competition.

"Every single hold comes down, gets cleaned, and is put back up on the wall for new routes," Fricke said.

David Matlock, an Outdoor Program student staff member, started climbing when he moved to Missoula in 2013. He participated in "Rock the Rec" previously, and over the past several years has helped set the routes and organize it.

"The fact that it's a big community event is cool," Matlock said. "And we're connecting with dozens of sponsors, both local and national industry leaders."

"Rock the Rec" will feature food, climbing films, music, prizes and shirts for all participants. Sponsors include Campus Recreation, The TrailHead, Petzl, Aerie Backcountry Medicine, Black Diamond, Yoga Fitness Center, Black Coffee Roasting Co., Freestone Climbing, Tufa, Kavu, Great Harvest, The Shirt Shop and more.

For more information call the Outdoor Program at 406-243-5172 or visit <http://www.umt.edu/outdoor>.

###

**Contact:** Elizabeth Fricke, senior assistant director, 406-243-5172, [elizabeth.fricke@umontana.edu](mailto:elizabeth.fricke@umontana.edu).



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# UM School of Theatre & Dance to Present 'Dance in Concert'

February 26, 2018

**MISSOULA** – The University of Montana School of Theatre & Dance will celebrate sophisticated and cutting-edge original choreography during its “Dance in Concert” in March.

Performances of “Dance in Concert,” produced by UM dance Professor Karen Kaufmann, will run at 7:30 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, March 8-10, and 2 p.m. Saturday, March 10, in the Montana Theatre in UM's Performing Arts and Radio/TV Center.

General admission tickets cost \$20, while senior and student tickets cost \$16. Admission for children ages 12 and under is \$10. Tickets are available at the UMArts Box Office at 406-243-4581 from noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday or online at <http://www.umt.edu/umarts/theatredance/>.

New works by guest artists and faculty from the renowned UM Dance Program will share the stage of UM's beautiful Montana Theatre, where audiences can experience six inspiring dance works and one dance video. This year's “Dance in Concert” will include contemporary modern dance, an excerpt of an evening-length work from American master Meredith Monk and multiple pieces that feature student-faculty collaboration.

Guest artist and UM alumnus Brian Gerke has created a new work with Natalie Oliver in collaboration with eight UM students, featuring set and costumes designed by Professor Alessia Carpoca and a video project created by Oliver. Gerke's recent works focus on observing and treasuring individuality in a culture that, at least subliminally, encourages conformity.

"Gerke hopes to illustrate the collateral beauty in the violence that is created when two points of tension or two value systems converge," Kaufmann said.

This work also will represent the UM School of Theatre & Dance in the adjudicated concert at the Northwest Regional Conference of the American College Dance Association in Boulder, Colorado, later this month.

Another guest artist, Marie Barnett, will feature a celebration of Tom Petty's musical contributions to the world.

"Set in neoclassical ballet style with sections danced on pointe, the choreography is set to three songs, all of which inspire playful imagination and joyful movement," Kaufmann said.

For more information on "Dance in Concert," call Kaufmann at 406-243-2870 or email [karen.kaufmann@umontana.edu](mailto:karen.kaufmann@umontana.edu). A complete schedule of UM School of Theatre & Dance productions for the 2017-18 academic year is online at <http://www.umt.edu/umarts/theatredance/Season/17-18-season.php>.

###

**Contact:** Karen Kaufmann, UM professor of dance, 406-243-2870, [karen.kaufmann@umontana.edu](mailto:karen.kaufmann@umontana.edu).



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## UM News

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# UM Undergraduates Invited to Summer Leadership Institute

February 23, 2018

**MISSOULA** – The Montana NEW Leadership program is now accepting applications for summer 2018.

The nonpartisan program, hosted by the University of Montana's Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center, is designed to educate college women about politics and encourage them to become effective leaders.

The program is open to women undergraduate students from Montana or attending school in Montana who will be a sophomore, junior, or senior in fall 2018. The application deadline is Friday, March 9.



The Montana NEW Leadership program is part of the national bipartisan NEW Leadership program developed by Rutgers University's Center for American Women and Politics. The program features a six-day residential program that will take place June 3-7 at UM.

During the summer institute, students will meet women leaders, learn about women in American politics and develop and practice leadership skills through panel discussions, workshops and hands-on projects. After the summer institute, participants are encouraged to continue to develop their leadership skills.

"Walking into the first day of the Montana NEW Leadership program was akin to stepping into the most thought-provoking, introspective and inspirational classroom the Montana University System has to offer," said Dani Daly from Montana State University, a participant in the inaugural Montana NEW Leadership institute. "A week of discussion and debate between individuals from all backgrounds and with varying interests reaffirmed my confidence in the goodness of my peers and in the abilities that I bring to the table."

More information and applications are available online at <http://bit.ly/2GCeMa4>. Email UM Professor Sara Rinfret at [sara.rinfret@mso.umt.edu](mailto:sara.rinfret@mso.umt.edu) with questions.

UM's Mansfield Center promotes better understanding of Asia, U.S. relations with Asia and ethics in public affairs in the spirit of Sen. Mike Mansfield (1903-2001) and his wife and life partner, Maureen Hayes Mansfield.

###

**Contact:** Dr. Sara Rinfret, academic director, Montana NEW Leadership, 406-243-4702, [sara.rinfret@mso.umt.edu](mailto:sara.rinfret@mso.umt.edu).



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# Missoula, UM Continue to Lead Nation in Peace Corps Volunteerism

February 23, 2018

**MISSOULA** – The spirit of service continues to surge at the University of Montana and in Missoula. Both UM and Missoula lead the nation in yielding Peace Corps volunteers.

Per capita, Missoula ranked as the top city for the second straight year with 12 volunteers per 100,000 people. The No. 2 city, Charlottesville, Virginia, averages 10 volunteers annually. UM ranks fourth in the nation for medium-sized colleges producing Peace Corps volunteers – its highest ranking ever.





"We are so proud of the robust level of participation of our students and local community. It clearly illustrates the caring, service-oriented culture that exists on our campus and in Missoula," said Laurie Fisher, director of UM Career Services, which houses an on-campus Peace Corps representative.

UM moved up from its No. 7 spot in 2017 to its strongest showing after more than 15 years in the top 10 colleges. Thirty-four Grizzlies currently are volunteering through the Peace Corps worldwide.

The medium-sized college category includes universities with enrollments between 5,000 and 15,000 students. The top three schools in the category were George Washington University with 50 Peace Corps volunteers, American University with 49 student volunteers and the College of William and Mary with 35 students serving abroad.

Montana has been in the top five volunteer-producing states per capita for the past five years. Since the Peace Corps' founding in 1961, 883 UM alumni have served abroad.

"As Peace Corps volunteers, recent college and university graduates foster capacity and self-reliance at the grassroots level, making an impact in communities around the world," said acting Peace Corps Director Sheila Crowley. "When they return to the United States, they have new, highly sought-after skills and an enterprising spirit that further leverages their education and strengthens their communities back home."

View the complete 2018 rankings of the top 25 schools in each category at <http://files.peacecorps.gov/university-rankings/2018/topschools2018.pdf>. Find an interactive map at <https://www.peacecorps.gov/news/topcolleges/#college/1846>.

The UM Peace Corps representative is housed in Career Services, and located on the garden level of the Emma B. Lommasson Center in Suite 154. Students may call and make an appointment or visit during drop-in hours. For more information visit the Peace Corps website at <http://www.umt.edu/peace-corps/> or call Missy Smith, UM's Peace Corps campus representative, at 406-243-2839 or email [peacecorps@umontana.edu](mailto:peacecorps@umontana.edu).

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**Contact:** Laurie Fisher, director, UM Career Services, 406-243-6989, [laurie.fisher@umontana.edu](mailto:laurie.fisher@umontana.edu); Missy Smith, Peace Corps UM campus representative, 406-243-2839, [peacecorps@umontana.edu](mailto:peacecorps@umontana.edu).



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# Montana High School Culinary Students to Compete at Missoula College

February 23, 2018

**MISSOULA** – Young chefs from across the state will compete for scholarships, trophies and medals at the Montana ProStart Invitational on Sunday, March 4, at the Big Sky Culinary Institute at Missoula College University of Montana.

Teams from nine Montana high schools will compete in culinary arts and restaurant management competitions from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. First- through third-place winners will be announced during the awards ceremony at 4:30 p.m. Both the competition and the awards ceremony are open to the public. Participating high schools include **Belgrade, Bozeman, Cascade, Chinook, Drummond**, Flathead (**Kalispell**), **Hot Springs, Laurel** and **Whitefish**.

“ProStart offers young people an opportunity to learn about the many career choices available to them in Montana’s restaurant industry,” said Chuck Schommer, chairman of the Montana Restaurant Association Education Foundation.

Schommer, who is co-owner of Buck’s T4 Lodging & Dining in **Big Sky**, is a nationally recognized chef and mentor who has been instrumental in the growth of the ProStart program in Montana. He said the competition is a chance

for students to display the many skills they have learned in their ProStart classes.

“They learn essential skills for succeeding in this industry, which plays an important part in the state’s economy,” Schommer said. “And in addition to cooking and restaurant management, they learn things like time management, critical thinking, teamwork and professionalism. ProStart sets them up to succeed in whatever they choose to do after high school.”

During the culinary competition, teams of two to five students have 60 minutes to prepare and plate two identical three-course meals consisting of a starter, an entrée and dessert, made using only two butane burners. They have no electricity or running water and cannot receive any coaching from their teachers or mentors. Professional chefs and postsecondary instructors judge participants in food safety, presentation, taste, food cost, knife skills, menu and more.

Management teams, also comprising two to five students, develop an original restaurant concept and present their business plans to panels of industry professionals who question the students about their concept, menu, costs, facility design, staffing and marketing.

In addition to trophies and medals, winning team members receive scholarships from the Big Sky Culinary Institute at Missoula College, Gallatin College, the New England Culinary Institute, the Culinary Institute of America, the Louisiana Culinary Institute and the International Culinary Schools at the Art Institutes.

Winning teams also will represent Montana at the National ProStart Invitational in Providence, Rhode Island, at the end of April, where they will compete with teams from across the globe.

For more information call Jennifer Heggen, Missoula College Big Sky Culinary Institute marketing/development director, at 406-243-7909 or email [jennifer.heggen@mso.umt.edu](mailto:jennifer.heggen@mso.umt.edu).

###

**Contact:** Jennifer Heggen, marketing/development director, Missoula College Big Sky Culinary Institute, 406-243-7909, [jennifer.heggen@mso.umt.edu](mailto:jennifer.heggen@mso.umt.edu); Megan Jessee, Montana ProStart coordinator, 406-206-4461, [megan.jessee@mtretail.com](mailto:megan.jessee@mtretail.com).

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# Merriam-Frontier Award Winner to Hold Reading at UM on March 2

February 22, 2018

**MISSOULA** – University of Montana Creative Writing Program graduate student Barry Maxwell, winner of the 2018 Merriam-Frontier Award, will hold a reading at 5 p.m. Friday, March 2, in the Theta Rho Room of UM's Mansfield Library. The event is free and open to the public.

This year, the judges also awarded an Honorable Mention to UM graduate student Georgia Dennison. She also will give a reading at the March 2 event.

Maxwell, 57, is a native of Austin, Texas, who moved to Missoula to pursue his Master of Fine Arts degree from UM. He is the founder of Street Lit and the Street Lit Authors Club, which provide books and creative writing workshops to homeless communities in Austin and Missoula.

Dennison is a Master of Fine Arts candidate and writing instructor at UM. She founded the Throne Reading Series in Brooklyn, New York, in 2014 and currently hosts the Second Wind Reading Series in Missoula. She also is a poetry editor for Cutbank Literary magazine and is working on a book-length thesis.

The Merriam-Frontier Award was established by H.G. Merriam, UM professor of English and creative writing from 1919 to 1954, and includes a \$500 prize and funds to publish the winning entry as a chapbook. The contest is open to undergraduate and graduate students each fall semester.

Frontier, later titled Frontier and Midland, was a distinguished quarterly journal founded and edited by H.G. Merriam and published at UM from 1920 to 1939. Contributors included then-emerging talents Wallace Stegner, A.B. Guthrie Jr., William Saroyan, Dorothy Johnson, John Mason Brown, Weldon Kees, Thomas McGrath and many others. A particular strength of the journal was its frequent publication of work by new voices, a tradition the Merriam-Frontier Award honors and continues.

For more information on the reading, call Creative Writing Program Coordinator Karin Schalm at 406-243-5267 or email [karin.schalm@mso.umt.edu](mailto:karin.schalm@mso.umt.edu).

**Contact:** Karin Schalm, program coordinator, UM Creative Writing Program, 406-243-5267, [karin.schalm@mso.umt.edu](mailto:karin.schalm@mso.umt.edu).



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## UM News

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# UM Students to be Guests of Japanese Government

February 22, 2018

**MISSOULA** – Twenty-three students from the University of Montana will embark on a one-week intensive study tour of Japan on March 5 as guests of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (MOFA).

The exchange program, called “The KAKEHASHI Project,” will focus on strengthening connections between the students and Japanese businesses, while promoting a better understanding of Japanese culture, economy, industry and policy.

UM and its Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center were selected to participate in the nearly fully funded program by MOFA after the first successful KAKEHASHI Project hosted by the University in 2016.

The UM cohort, comprising freshman through graduate students studying business, economics and education, will travel primarily in northern Japan, visiting Tohoku University, partaking in workshops, touring local industries and participating in a homestay.

The cohort also will have the opportunity to network with students from Georgetown University and Mercer

University in Tokyo, the two other institutions invited to participate in this year's exchange.

The trip provides a valuable opportunity for students to build international experience while at UM.

"This trip, with its ups and downs, long nights and early mornings, was the highlight of my semester... Being able to experience a new place and culture is something I recommend for every person looking for inspiration," wrote 2016 participant Laura Sikoski in the program's blog.

Read past participant experiences and follow along with this year's program at <https://kakehashimt.wordpress.com/> People also can follow the students on the Instagram handle @Mansfield\_Center or by searching the hashtags #KAKEHASHI, #MTtoJapan and #BeyondBusiness.

The Mansfield Center enhances mutual understanding between the U.S. and Asia by fostering ethical public policy and leadership. For more information, call program coordinator Shanti Johnson at 406-243-6605 or email [shanti.johnson@mso.umt.edu](mailto:shanti.johnson@mso.umt.edu).

###

**Contact:** Shanti Johnson, program coordinator, UM Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center, 406-243-6605, [shanti.johnson@mso.umt.edu](mailto:shanti.johnson@mso.umt.edu).



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## UM News

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# UM Professor's Documentary on Race in Montana to Air Statewide on MTPR

February 22, 2018

**MISSOULA** – Montana Public Radio will broadcast a University of Montana journalism professor's documentary, "Facing Race," as part of its observance of Black History Month.

UM School of Journalism Associate Professor Ray Fanning produced, reported and wrote the hourlong program, which airs at 6 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 25, on Montana Public Radio.

"Some people have the impression that Montana has no racial issues because of its majority white population," Fanning said. "But the issues are here, and they're often invisible to the white majority."

Minorities make up about 10 percent of the population, with Native Americans comprising the largest group – about 7 percent. But minorities are overly represented in the criminal justice system, where Native American women make up 34 percent of inmates at the state prison. The documentary looks at implicit bias and other factors that contribute to that imbalance.

The program samples racial attitudes from across the state through six-word essays generated by the Montana

Race Card Project. It also explains how the idea of race developed in the first place, how it played out in the history of the Montana Territory and later evolved in the state.

One section explores the experiences of three African-American students who moved from California to attend UM. Another profiles anti-hate groups in Bozeman and Missoula that are actively working to end prejudice and discrimination through outreach and education.

Montana Public Radio is a service of UM. MTPR FM broadcast stations include 89.1 Missoula (KUFM), 91.5 Missoula, city (K218AI), 91.9 Hamilton (KUFN), 89.5 Polson (KPJH), 90.1 Kalispell, Whitefish, North Valley (KUKL), 90.5 Libby (KUFL), 91.7 Kalispell, city (K219BN), 101.3 Swan Lake (K267BJ), 91.3 Butte (KAPC), 91.7 Helena (KUHM), 91.7 Dillon (K219DN) and 89.9 Great Falls (KGPR).

###

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## UM News

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# UM Releases Spring Enrollment Numbers

February 22, 2018

**MISSOULA** – The overall headcount enrollment at the University of Montana for spring semester is down 5.4 percent when compared to spring semester 2017. The total spring headcount is 10,987, which is 628 fewer students than a year ago.

UM officials said the enrollment numbers were anticipated. Thomas Crady, UM vice president for enrollment and student affairs, expects the final enrollment number to grow somewhat as students finish paying bills for the semester.

“Traditionally, spring numbers are always lower as we have as students who graduate midyear,” Crady said. “We expect our final tally to grow as students continue to finalize their paperwork and payment.”

A bright spot in the UM enrollment picture is the Graduate School, which posted a 4.5 percent increase in headcount enrollment for spring semester when compared to a year ago – an addition of 100 students.

UM’s full-time equivalent for students this semester stands at 9,132, which is down 6 percent from a year ago. An FTE represents 15 undergraduate or 12 graduate student credits.

The headcount at the University's mountain campus was down 6 percent. However, UM's two-year Missoula College was down only 1.8 percent compared to a year ago. Early admittance and dual enrollment students were up 18.1 percent. MC was down 29 students overall this spring when compared to last spring. The college enrolls 1,580 students.

The full census data is online at <http://www.umt.edu/institutional-research/>.

###

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## UM News

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# UM Dining Wins National Award from Prestigious James Beard Foundation

February 21, 2018

**MISSOULA** – UM Dining at the University of Montana has created a burger that is a cut above the rest for the national James Beard Foundation's 2017 Blended Burger Project Campus Edition contest.

The Blended Burger Project is part of an initiative to make the iconic, American hamburger better by blending ground meat with mushrooms to create a patty healthier for people and more sustainable for the planet. UM's blended burger took first place in the medium-sized universities category in the competition.

UM Associate Director of Residential Dining Patrick Browne developed the winning recipe during his tenure as executive chef for the department. UM students, faculty and staff have enjoyed the specially seasoned blend of local, grassfed beef and

fresh mushrooms in the Food Zoo dining room for the past three semesters.

“The blend produces a juicier, more flavorful burger,” Browne said of the award-winning patty.

“The difference in taste and texture has been positive across

the board. Most people are unaware they’re doing their health and the planet a favor – they are just enjoying a really good burger.”



The James Beard Foundation’s mission is to support chefs and other leaders who make America’s food culture more delicious, diverse and sustainable – a cause close to the heart of UM Dining’s core values. To honor UM Dining for its award-winning entry, the foundation will fly Browne to Manhattan, New York, to prepare the blend in the historic James Beard House alongside celebrity culinarians and chefs from other winning universities, including the University of Massachusetts-Amherst, North Carolina State and the University of Alaska- Fairbanks.

The revolutionary burger is available at several UM Dining retail outlets, including the 406 Grill in the UC Food Court, the Iron Griz restaurant and the Corner Store.

For more information call Browne at 406-243-4501 or email [patrick.browne@mso.umt.edu](mailto:patrick.browne@mso.umt.edu).

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**Contact:** Patrick Browne, associate director of residential dining, UM Dining, 406-243-4501, [patrick.browne@mso.umt.edu](mailto:patrick.browne@mso.umt.edu).

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# MTPR Reporter, Podcast Receive Environmental Stewardship Honor

February 21, 2018

**MISSOULA** – Montana Public Radio reporter Nicky Ouellet received the Chris Ruffatto Excellence in Education Award from the Whitefish Lake Institute at a ceremony on Feb. 7 for her work on the podcast “SubSurface: Resisting Montana’s Underwater Invaders.”

“SubSurface” examines what could happen if Montana fails to stop the coming invasion of zebra and quagga mussels threatening the state’s water bodies. Ouellet traveled to the Midwest to report on how invasive mussels changed the Great Lakes region and what they could mean for Montana’s future, as well as what the state already is doing to detect and prevent their spread.

“We hope that the award communicates to Nicky how much her dedication and effort means to the scientists and resource managers who work to understand and combat aquatic invasive species, and to the communities eager to prevent them from their waters,” said Mike Koopal, founder and executive director of the WLI.

The five-episode series launched last year and is available on iTunes and online at <http://mtpr.org/programs/subsurface-resisting-montanas-underwater-invaders>. Each 20-minute episode explores

lessons from the communities zebra mussels already have invaded and the challenges faced in preventing their spread to Montana's lakes and rivers.

"Tiny as they are, invasive mussels pose one of the biggest threats to Montana's economy, the health of our watersheds and our way of life," Ouellet said. "We realized at the end of last summer that despite news articles and educational campaigns, people still didn't know what invasive mussels were, where they come from, how they're spread or the damage they can cause. We made 'SubSurface' to answer those questions and show how invasive zebra and quagga mussels muck up infrastructure, recreation and ecosystems."

Ouellet is a 2016 graduate of the University of Montana School of Journalism master's in environmental science and natural resource journalism program. MTPR digital editor Josh Burnham and Nora Saks, MTPR reporter and producer and UM journalism graduate student, also played significant roles in making the podcast.

The Whitefish Lake Institute is committed to science, education and community stewardship through protecting Whitefish area water resources. WLI's educational stewardship award is named in honor of Chris Ruffatto and his lifetime dedication to environmental education in Montana. Ruffatto mentored thousands of students during his career as a high school educator. The award recognized him for always seizing the opportunity to involve young people in contemporary environmental issues and for challenging their thinking process by introducing them to innovative learning techniques.

###

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## UM News

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# UM to Host 29th Annual Big Sky Career Fair

February 21, 2018

**MISSOULA** – The University of Montana invites all students and alumni to attend the 29th Annual Big Sky Career Fair from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 28, in the University Center Ballroom.

During the event, UM students and alumni will meet with company recruiters from local, regional, national and international employers. The fair is hosted by the UM Office of Career Services and free to students and alumni. Registration begins at 9 a.m.

The career fair is focused on recruiting students from all academic disciplines for professional full-time positions, summer internships, part-time employment and summer jobs. Some recruiters will stay the following day, Thursday, March 1, to interview students and alumni for open positions within their organizations.

Students and alumni can visit the career fair website at <http://bit.ly/2G7dsvt> to see a list of the participating companies and a schedule of events. By logging into Career Services' online job platform Handshake, students also can see which employers will interview the day after the fair and sign up for on-campus interviews.

For more information call Alexandria Harris, recruiting coordinator for UM's Office of Career Services, at 406-243-2239 or email [alexandria.harris@umontana.edu](mailto:alexandria.harris@umontana.edu).

###

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## UM News

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# Gilkey Lecture 'Caring Is Good for Business' to Confront Homeless Crisis

February 20, 2018

**MISSOULA** – Michelle Cardinal didn't choose to become a prominent voice in the movement to address Portland's homeless epidemic. But when the problem showed up outside her office, the founder and CEO of one of the nation's top independent advertising agencies quickly got involved.

Cardinal will speak at the University of Montana College of Business as part of its Gilkey Executive Lecture Series on Thursday, March 8. "Caring is Good for Business," which is free and open to the public, will take place at 5:30 p.m. in Gallagher Business Building Room 106.



Cardinal helped found R2C Group, a \$600 million Portland firm with more than 220 employees and offices in four cities across the nation. While not an expert on homelessness, she will engage in a conversation to share her “honest, authentic story about what businesses go through when they’re grappling with homeless issues.”

In 2015, she returned from a business trip to find that a large homeless camp had settled right outside the doors of her business. The development had a cascading effect on her enterprise – visiting clients were harassed and issues related to drug use and prostitution surfaced, as well as safety and sanitary concerns for everyone from employees to passersby.

“This is about business’ responsibility and our social contract,” Cardinal said. “Businesses have a right to run their business and have sanitary and safe conditions. But the question I would pose is, ‘What is our responsibility in return?’”

Cardinal’s career spans more than 25 years in advertising and media. During that time, she has pioneered the use of data to guide informed marketing decisions through the development of leading media analytic tools to target consumers, derive brand insights and measure behaviors.

This unique approach leads to highly effective creative and media strategies that drive massive transformational growth for their clients. Some of these clients include Peloton, Chewy, Wayfair, Humana Healthcare and many more.

Cardinal is an entrepreneur at heart and has successfully built three companies from startup and effectively steered the agency through four company acquisitions, successfully merging staff and cultures in four cities nationwide. In 2009, she co-founded Nero Del Gallo, with olive groves in Santa Ynez, California. The company produces and bottles more than 60 gallons of artisan olive oil per year.

UM alumni Harold and Priscilla Gilkey established the Gilkey Executive Lecture Series to enrich business education at the University. Since its founding in 2004, the series has drawn speakers such as BlogHer co-founder Lisa Stone

and Potlatch Corporation CEO Michael Covey to address issues regarding marketing, management, finance, ethics and leadership.

In addition to the public lecture, each visiting speaker leads classroom discussions with students and interacts with faculty, staff and campus and community leaders. Visit <http://bit.ly/2EWp6fA> to learn more about the series and to see a complete list of past speakers. Email [officeofthedeans@mso.umt.edu](mailto:officeofthedeans@mso.umt.edu) with questions.

###

**Contact:** Elizabeth Willy, director of marketing and communications, UM College of Business, 406-243-4436, [elizabeth.willy@mso.umt.edu](mailto:elizabeth.willy@mso.umt.edu).



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## UM News

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# Montana Repertory Theatre Announces New Artist Director

February 16, 2018

**MISSOULA** – Montana Repertory Theatre, the professional theatre-in-residence at the University of Montana School of Theatre & Dance, has selected Michael Legg to become its next artistic director.

Legg currently is director of the Professional Training Company at Actors Theatre of Louisville, Kentucky. He will start his new role at UM on July 1.

“The faculty and staff of the School of Theatre & Dance and the staff of Montana Repertory Theatre consider Legg an excellent leader with the qualifications, experience and national reputation required to succeed Professor Greg Johnson upon his retirement in May,” said John DeBoer, the UM





associate professor of theatre who chaired the search committee. “We were impressed by Mr. Legg’s bold ideas and contemporary mindset. Those qualities, along with his connections in the profession, will be vital for our students.”

“We are excited to have Mr. Legg join our faculty and to lead Montana Rep into its next adventure,” added Stephen Kalm, dean of UM’s College of Visual and Performing Arts.

Montana Rep celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2017. Legg, as the new artistic director, will have the 2018-19 academic year to plan for the 2020 tour and determine how the Rep can further develop its programming to better serve the students of the School of Theatre & Dance, the residents of Montana and the entire country.

“I could not be more excited to lead the Rep in this new chapter of its long and incredible history,” Legg said. “I’m especially looking forward to becoming part of the University and Missoula communities that were so warm and welcoming even before I accepted the job. We’re going to do amazing work together.”

Johnson, whose tenure with Montana Rep began in 1990, is delighted with the choice.

“Mr. Legg brings youth, vision and vitality at a time when the Rep is poised not only to continue its tradition of touring nationally, but also to be a strong artistic presence in Missoula and the region, as the University of Montana begins its renaissance under our new president.”

For more information, call DeBoer at 812-322-2505 or email [john.deboer@umontana.edu](mailto:john.deboer@umontana.edu). More information about Montana Rep and its current national tour of Ernest Thompson’s “On Golden Pond” can be found at <http://www.montanarep.org>. More information about the UM School of Theatre & Dance can be found at <http://www.umt.edu/theatredance>.



###

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# Associate Director of NASA Flight Center to Speak at UM Feb. 20

February 16, 2018

**MISSOULA** – The associate director of NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center will hold a seminar at the University of Montana on Tuesday, Feb. 20.

Paul McConnaughey will present "21st Century Science and Exploration" at 3:30 p.m. in Interdisciplinary Science Building Room 110. The event is free and open to the public.

McConnaughey will discuss the latest technologies and spacecraft used in conducting science missions to peer deeper and farther into space than ever before to discover the origins of the universe. Topics will include science operations aboard the International Space Station, innovative telescopes that will unveil the secrets of black holes and the recent historic neutron star merger.

McConnaughey also will discuss missions and discoveries that continue to shape our view of Earth, elements of our solar system and beyond.

###

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## UM News

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# UM Journalism Professor, Students Shine in National Broadcast Competition

February 16, 2018

**MISSOULA** – Associate Professor Jule Banville in the University of Montana School of Journalism won a Best of Competition award for an audio documentary that aired on her podcast, “Last Best Stories.”

The faculty division award from the Broadcast Education Association comes from its annual competition, which also recognizes student work. More than 1,530 entries were considered. Banville's work will be featured at the annual BEA Festival of Media Arts in April in Las Vegas.

The winning entry is an audio story about a woman who owns the town of Pray in Montana's Paradise Valley and can't find someone to buy it. It can be heard as Episode 11, “Owning Pray,” at <http://lastbeststories.org/episode-11-owning-pray/>.

The BEA also recognized student work from the UM School of Journalism in its 2018 awards.

The Meth Effect, a multimedia reporting project that came out of a class co-taught by Jule Banville and journalism Associate Professor Lee Banville, won second place in the Interactive Media and Emerging Technologies

Competition, large team division.

Journalism senior Rosie Costain won second place in the Student News/Radio Feature competition. Nora Saks, a student in the Environmental Science and Natural Resource Journalism graduate program, won the Award of Excellence in radio hard news reporting. UM News, the weekly news segment produced by senior broadcast journalism students, was awarded second place in the Television Newscast category.

"The UM School of Journalism is proud of its stellar showing this year in a competitive awards program," said journalism Dean Larry Abramson.

For more information about UM's School of Journalism, visit <http://jour.umt.edu>. The Last Best Stories podcast is online at <http://lastbeststories.org/>.

###

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## UM News

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# Museums for All Initiative Provides Free Access for Low-Income Families

February 15, 2018

**MISSOULA** – Children and families experiencing poverty can now visit four Missoula museums free of charge.

Families First Children's Museum, the Missoula Insectarium, the Montana Natural History Center and the University of Montana spectrUM Discovery Area have joined the nationwide Museums for All Initiative, an effort to ensure that museums are accessible to everyone, regardless of income.

A cooperative initiative between the Association of Children's Museums and the Institute of Museum and Library Services, Museums for All is a network of over 200 museums that have committed to offering free or reduced-price admission for Electronic Benefits Transfer cardholders, who receive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits.

Only three other cities in the U.S. – Chicago; Savannah, Georgia; and San Diego – have more museums enrolled in Museums for All than Missoula. The four participating Missoula museums have chosen to provide totally free admission for EBT cardholders. Visitors can show their EBT card at any of these museums for free entry.

Missoula's participating museums came together with the shared goals of opening access while closing gaps in persistent opportunity and achievement for children. In fiscal year 2016, 14 percent of Missoula County residents relied on SNAP benefits.

"Life presents enough challenges and hurdles," said Jen Marangelo, executive director of Missoula Insectarium. "Access to unique and impactful education opportunities should not be one of them. We're honored to be part of a program that helps ensure all segments of our community have access to experiences that nurture curiosity and inspire learning."

Missoula Insectarium inspires an appreciation and understanding of insects and their relatives through educational programs, innovative science exhibits featuring over 20 live invertebrate species, museum activities centering on a new theme each month and an opportunity to touch and hold live "bug ambassadors." Located at 218 E. Front St., Suite 200, the Insectarium is open Wednesday through Friday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday 10 to 5 p.m.

Families First Children's Museum empowers families with parent education and learning through play. In addition to its museum, FFCM offers a variety of additional family education services, including parenting education classes and individual private consultations that strengthen resiliency and build confidence in navigating day-to-day family life.

Though its museum operation is temporarily closed, FFCM continues to offer its family education programs at this time. The office can be reached Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 406-721-7690.

The Montana Natural History Center promotes appreciation, understanding and stewardship of nature through education. MNHC's children's programs include weekly miniNaturalist Pre-K programs, monthly Saturday Kids' Activities that are free with admission and summer camps for children ages 4 through fifth grade. Need-based scholarships are available for MNHC's camps.

Its museum, which engages visitors with the flora, fauna and natural history of western Montana, is located at 120 Hickory St., Suite A in Missoula and is open Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday noon to 4 p.m.

Now in its 10th year, spectrUM is UM's hands-on science center that serves more than 200,000 Montanans annually through in-museum and statewide mobile programming, as well as at EmPower Place, an IMLS-funded, free family learning center at Missoula Food Bank.

"Access matters," said spectrUM Director Holly Truitt. "Teaming up with Museums for All is a powerful addition to the work we're already doing in Missoula to ensure that all children can access inspirational role models and hands-on learning experiences."

SpectrUM also operates a Science for All Fund that provides need-based scholarships for clubs, camps and field trips and an array of free programming in Missoula and rural and tribal Montana communities. SpectrUM's Toole Crossing museum is located at 812 Toole Ave. and is open Wednesday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

"All four organizations are immensely proud to be part of this nationwide initiative that is moving the needle by providing unprecedented access to museums and exhibits," said Thurston Elfstrom, executive director of Montana



## Natural History Center.

“Since 2014, the Institute of Museum and Library Services and the Association of Children’s Museums have seen over 230 museums adopt the Museums for All program, welcoming over 900,000 visitors through their doors,” said Laura Huerta Migus, executive director of the Association of Children’s Museums. “We believe that museums have the duty to serve their entire communities, and Museums for All is a great way to extend that invitation to everyone.”

To learn more about the nationwide Museums for All initiative, visit <http://childrensmuseums.org/about/acm-initiatives/museums-for-all>.

###

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/ [Research Identifies Areas Where Evolution Could Rescue Animals Threatened by Climate Change](#)

# Research Identifies Areas Where Evolution Could Rescue Animals Threatened by Climate Change

February 15, 2018

**MISSOULA** – As winters arrive later and snow melts earlier, the worldwide decrease in snow cover already may have dramatic impacts on animals that change coat colors with the seasons. An international scientific team led by University



of Montana Professor L. Scott Mills has set out to discover whether adaptive evolution can rescue these animals in the face of rapidly changing climate.

Twenty-one species of mammals and birds rely on the ability to change their coat color from brown in summer to white in winter to avoid fatal encounters with predators, but in some parts of their range individuals forgo the white molt and remain brown in winter.

“Weasels in the southern U.S. and mountain hares in Ireland, for example, have evolved to remain brown year-round,” Mills said. “This is a genetic adaptation to retain camouflage in areas where snow is intermittent or sparse.”

Mills’ group previously found that winter white snowshoe hares confronting snowless ground have higher mortality rates that could drive massive population declines as snow duration continues to decrease. Other scientists have pointed to coat-color mismatch against snowless ground as a cause for recent range decreases of hares, ptarmigan and other species.

In a new article in *Science*, Mills’ team identified areas that could foster rapid “evolutionary rescue” of these species particularly vulnerable to climate change. The study describes how the international team mapped “polymorphic zones” for eight color-changing species, including hares, weasels and the Arctic fox. In these zones, both brown and white individuals coexist in winter.

“These areas hold the special sauce for rapid evolutionary rescue,” Mills said. “Because they contain winter-brown individuals better adapted to shorter winters, these polymorphic populations are primed to promote rapid evolution toward being winter brown instead of white as climate changes.”

The authors emphasize that these hotspots for evolutionary rescue are not magic fortresses that will prevent climate change effects on wild animals.

“Ultimately, the world must reduce carbon dioxide emissions or else the climate effects will overwhelm the ability of many species to adapt,” co-author Eugenia Bragina said. “But by mapping these adaptive hotspots, we identify places where people could help foster evolutionary rescue in the short term by working to maintain large and

connected wildlife populations.”

For this research, UM partnered with North Carolina State University, the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences in Vienna, the Universidade do Porto in Portugal, the German Remote Sensing Data Center, the Russian Academy of Sciences in St. Petersburg and Russia’s Institute of Systematics and Ecology of Animals.

Five UM graduate students also were co-authors on the paper and part of the international research team.

For more information on the research, visit <http://www.umt.edu/research/millslab/coat.php>.

###

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## UM News

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# Weekly Philosophy Forum Series Returns to UM for Spring Semester

February 14, 2018

**MISSOULA** – The University of Montana Department of Philosophy will begin its semesterlong weekly Philosophy Forum in February.

The forum is a program of presentations and discussions that cover a broad range of topics and styles, including papers, papers in progress, book reports, informal reports and panels. Faculty and students from all departments of the university are invited to attend.

Presentations will be held 3 to 4:30 p.m. on Mondays. Locations will vary. The schedule is:

- **Feb. 26:** David Clark, adjunct assistant professor of philosophy, “The Parables According to Jesus.” Pope Room, Alexander Blewett III School of Law.
- **March 12:** George Scialabba, public intellectual and social critic, “Last Men and Women,” in cooperation with the President’s Lecture Series. Gallagher Business Building Room 123.

- **March 19:** Martin Drenthen, associate professor of philosophy and science studies at Radboud University, topic to be announced. Pope Room, Alexander Blewett III School of Law.
- **April 4:** Andrea Wulf, bestselling science and nature writer, "Founding Gardeners: The Revolutionary Generation, Nature and the Shaping of the American Generation," in cooperation with the President's Lecture Series. Gallagher Business Building Room 123.
- **April 23:** Sir J. Fraser Stoddart, Board of Trustees professor of chemistry and director of the Center for the Chemistry of Integrated Systems at Northwestern University and 2016 Nobel Prize winner in Chemistry, "The Rise and Promise of the Mechanical Bond in Chemistry and Beyond," in cooperation with the President's Lecture Series. Gallagher Business Building Room 123.

For more information on the Philosophy Forum, call Britt Wren at 406-243-2949 or email [britt.wren@umontana.edu](mailto:britt.wren@umontana.edu).

###

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## UM News

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# UM to Celebrate National TRiO Day

February 14, 2018

**MISSOULA** – The University of Montana will celebrate the lives transformed by TRiO programs during the 2018 National TRiO Day of Service from 3 to 5 p.m. Friday, Feb. 23, in the Emma Lommasson Center Room 154.

For millions of students from low-income families who strive to be first in their families to attend and graduate college, seven federally funded programs called TRiO are making a world of difference. For over 50 years, TRiO programs have provided valuable supportive services to students from poor and working families to successfully enter college and graduate. National TRiO Day provides an opportunity for students, professionals, alumni and affiliates to come together and give back to the community.

“TRiO has been a massive help to my success at UM,” said UM student Josh Meagher “Learning Strategies for Higher Education was helpful in getting me back into the mindset of being a student after nine years out of school. I am also incredibly thankful for the insightful advising, the book loan program, tutoring and printing TRiO has to offer.”

This year, TRiO Student Support Services at UM will host a local food drive benefiting Missoula Food Bank. Participants should bring nonperishable items as donations. The event will include a photo booth to commemorate TRiO Day; testimonials of firsthand accounts of TRiO successes; networking opportunities to meet other students,



alumni and staff; a donation box for Missoula Food Bank; and snacks and beverages.

TRiO is comprised of a set of seven college-based educational opportunity outreach programs that motivate and support students from low-income backgrounds, including military veterans and students with disabilities. TRiO provides academic tutoring, personal counseling, mentoring, financial guidance and more to 828,000 students from middle school through postgraduate study. An estimated 5 million students have graduated from college with the support and assistance of TRiO programs across the country.

Cierra Anderson, a UM student who plans to enter the master's program in economics, said TRiO has helped her study for the GRE, look into graduate programs and complete a 27-credit course load with a 3.46 GPA.

"I am taking 28 credits this semester – insane I know! – and without the TRiO services I wouldn't be successful," Anderson said. "TRiO helps me to maintain my sanity and helps me to manage my time well."

Statewide, TRiO programs serve 5,875 Montana students with funding around \$7.3 million. UM is a host institution for two TRiO programs: TRiO Student Support Services and Upward Bound. TRiO SSS, on the UM campus since 1978, serves 375 students annually. Upward Bound, in its 52nd year, serves 77 high school students from Missoula Hellgate, Big Sky and Browning high schools.

To learn more about each federal TRiO program, visit <http://www.coenet.org/trio.shtml>. For more information about UM's TRiO Student Support Services, call Director Darlene Samson at 406-243-4199 or email [darlene.samson@umontana.edu](mailto:darlene.samson@umontana.edu).

###

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# Journalist to Discuss Nonfiction Writing in Craft Lecture at UM

February 13, 2018

**MISSOULA** – A prominent nonfiction writer will share some details of his craft at the University of Montana on Friday, Feb. 23.

Sanjiv Bhattacharya will deliver his lecture, “The I’s Have it: First Person Structure in Nonfiction,” from noon to 12:50 p.m. in Turner Hall’s Dell Brown Room, followed by a nonfiction reading at 7 p.m. Both are sponsored through the President’s Writers-in-Residence Series and UM’s Creative Writing program.

Bhattacharya is the U.S. correspondent for Esquire (U.K.), a member of the nonfiction faculty at the Pacific University MFA in Writing program in Oregon, and a freelancer for various publications, such as Telegraph, The Guardian and others. Originally from London, he became a features editor at GQ Magazine in the U.K. before moving to Los Angeles in 2000, where he has written about subcultures, fringe groups, celebrities and entertainment, and crime and lifestyle.

In 2005, his documentary about Mormon polygamy aired on the British public-service TV network Channel 4 and led to his 2011 book-length investigation, "Secrets and Wives." In 2008, he moved to India for a couple of years to edit men's lifestyle magazines in both Bombay and Delhi. The Professional Publishers Association nominated Bhattacharya for Consumer Magazine Writer of the Year in 2013, 2015 and 2017.

Bhattacharya has interviewed celebrities Joaquin Phoenix, Mary J. Blige, Ewan McGregor and Jon Hamm in his recent articles.

"We are excited to welcome Sanjiv to the University of Montana," said Judy Blunt, UM creative writing professor. "Caroline Leavitt writes that Sanjiv 'sheds blazing new light on this incredible diverse society ... He lets us in on his own spiritual leanings in a way that is both personal, profound and grippingly entertaining.' You'll know what she means when you hear him read."

Both UM events are free and open to the public. For more information email Karin Schalm, UM Creative Writing program coordinator, at [karin.schalm@umontana.edu](mailto:karin.schalm@umontana.edu) or visit <http://hs.umt.edu/creativewriting/>.

###

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## UM News

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# Mansfield Center Lecture Series to Explore Leadership, Asian Affairs

February 08, 2018

**MISSOULA** – The Mansfield Center at the University of Montana has announced the lineup for its community lecture series to promote an understanding of Asia, public affairs and ethics.

Topics of the Spring 2018 Lecture Series include women's leadership, the current situation on the Korean Peninsula, and U.S.-Japanese relations.

All sessions will be held from noon to 12:50 p.m. The lectures are free and open to the public, and attendees are invited to bring their own lunch. The schedule follows:

- **Wednesday, Feb. 14:** "Perfecting the Surveillance State: New Developments in Xinjiang, China's Muslim Borderland," presented by Eric Schluessel, UM director of East Asian studies and assistant professor of history and political science, in University Center Room 326.
- **Wednesday, Feb. 28:** "Why Women's Leadership Matters, from Montana to Myanmar," presented by Jen Euell, program director of the Women's Foundation of Montana and alumna of the U.S. Department of State YSEALI

Professional Fellows Program, in University Center Room 332.

- **Wednesday, March 14:** “The Military Situation in the Korean Peninsula and the Military Partnership between South Korea and the United States,” presented by Korean Language and Culture scholars in the Mansfield Center Defense Critical Language and Culture Program, including Byeong-Keun You, UM associate professor; Owen Sirrs, UM adjunct professor; Jisoo Han, UM adjunct professor; and Sanghyup Lee, UM graduate teaching assistant; in Payne Family Native American Center Room 103.
- **Wednesday, April 11:** “Beyond Business: Expanding Japan-Montana relations through the KAKEHASHI Project,” presented by returning student participants in the KAKEHASHI Project exchange program, in University Center Room 326.
- **Wednesday, April 18:** “Scratching the Surface: A Fulbrighter’s Perspective on South Korea,” presented by Mary Nellis, UM international student adviser in the Global Engagement and International Students and Scholars programs, in University Center Room 326.

For more information and extended session descriptions, visit <http://www.umt.edu/mansfield/events/lecture-series.php> or call 406-243-2988.

###

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## UM News

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# UM School of Theatre & Dance to Present 'In the Next Room, or the Vibrator Play'

February 08, 2018

**MISSOULA** – The University of Montana School of Theatre & Dance will present the Tony-nominated “In the Next Room, or the vibrator play” to audiences later this month.

“Playwright Sarah Ruhl presents ‘In the Next Room’ as a contemporary exploration of the intimate details of the historical threshold of the medical and social acknowledgment of female sexuality – a historical shift in social consciousness that is quite applicable to our current social climate,” said MFA acting candidate Matt McDaniel.

Directed by UM theatre Associate Professor John Kenneth DeBoer, performances will be held at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday, Feb. 21-24, and Wednesday through Friday, Feb. 28-March 2. Performances also will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 25, and Saturday through Sunday, March 3-4. All performances will be held in the Masquer Theatre in UM’s Performing Arts and Radio/Television Center.

General admission costs \$16, while senior and student admission costs \$14. Admission for children 12 and under costs \$10. Tickets are available by calling the UMArts Box Office at 406-243-4581 between noon and 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, or online at <http://www.umt.edu/theatredance>.

Set in the 1880s, this comedy of manners connects the dawn of the age of electricity with the awakening of female sexuality at the end of the American Victorian era. Ruhl was inspired by the bizarre historical fact that at the time, doctors used vibrators to treat “hysterical” women (and some men).

“‘In the Next Room’ is an intimate, beautifully balanced look at love, longing and relationships,” DeBoer said.

The play centers on Dr. Givings; his wife, Catherine; and how his new therapy affects their entire household. McDaniel will play the role of Dr. Givings as a portion of his final creative project for the MFA.

For more information, call DeBoer at 812-322-2505 or email [john.deboer@umontana.edu](mailto:john.deboer@umontana.edu). A complete schedule of UM School of Theatre & Dance productions for the academic year is available at <http://www.umt.edu/umarts/theatredance/Season/17-18-season.php>.

Audience discretion is advised: “In the Next Room” includes adult themes and nudity.

###

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# SpectrUM to Hold Making and Tinkering Days at Corvallis Primary School

February 08, 2018

**MISSOULA** – The University of Montana spectrUM Discovery Area will offer in-school Making and Tinkering Days with kindergarten and first-grade students at **Corvallis** Primary School on Monday, Feb. 12, and Wednesday, Feb. 28.

SpectrUM's resident maker Nick Wethington will guide students in making bouncy rockets, an activity that uses everyday supplies like bouncy balls and cardboard, to engage students with physics and engineering concepts such as the conservation of energy.

Students will design, prototype and test their own take-home bouncy rocket and will explore different ways to launch their rockets and evaluate the results.

"Making and tinkering activities offer high-risk but low-stakes opportunities for children to experiment, be creative, fail without consequence and then try a new approach," Wethington said. "This process builds students' resilience and problem-solving skills, which are essential for success not only in education, but also in the 21st-century workforce."

Corvallis Primary School's Making and Tinkering Days are powered by the Greater Ravalli Foundation, which provided a one-to-one match for science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics (STEAM) projects at the Corvallis Primary School, as well as by the Corvallis Schools Foundation, Corvallis School District, the Parents at Work in Corvallis Schools (PAWS) group and classroom sponsors.

"The Greater Ravalli Foundation is excited to partner with spectrUM and the Corvallis PAWS group to provide innovative exposure to STEAM projects at the primary school," said Deb Gabelhausen, executive director of the Greater Ravalli Foundation.

"Primary school children often come to us with a wonderful sense of curiosity and inquisitiveness that we want to inspire and enhance," said Lisa Nagel, principal of Corvallis Primary School. "We hope to boost this love of learning through these fun and engaging activities."

SpectrUM and its parent organization, the UM Broader Impacts Group, are the backbone of a collective-impact effort in the Bitterroot that brings together K-12 schools, a cross-sector community advisory group and other community partners to build a seamless pipeline into higher education and fulfilling careers.

Powered by the Jane S. Heman Foundation and the Martin Family Foundation, these efforts include role-model engagement and making and tinkering programming that reflect the real workforce strengths and opportunities in the Bitterroot, including sectors like manufacturing, entrepreneurship and technology.

"By linking arm in arm with like-minded community partners, we're creating transformative change that none of our organizations could accomplish on our own," said spectrUM and BIG Director Holly Truitt. "In the Bitterroot, we're particularly focused on closing a gap that that our advisory group, along with the Greater Ravalli Foundation, have identified between students' passion for learning and exploring and the financial barriers that might prevent some of these students from continuing into postsecondary education and ultimately fulfilling careers."

Now in its 10th year, spectrUM is UM's hands-on science center that engages over 200,000 people annually in its Missoula museum, EmPower Place at Missoula Food Bank, and through statewide mobile programming. BIG harnesses the university's research and creative scholarship to foster social mobility and a vibrant, homegrown workforce for Montana.

Children and families in the Missoula area can explore making and tinkering at spectrUM's Jane S. Heman Foundation Makerspace in its museum at 812 Toole Ave. in Missoula from 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Wednesday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 5:30 pm on Saturdays. Admission costs \$3.50 for everyone ages 4 and over and is free for children 3 and under. As part of the nationwide Museums for All Initiative, spectrUM offers free family memberships to EBT cardholders.

###

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## UM News

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# UM Research Studies Relationship Between Sheep-Grazing, Native Plant Recovery

February 07, 2018

**MISSOULA** – New research by University of Montana alumna Eva Masin and restoration ecology Professor Cara Nelson is examining the effectiveness of using domestic sheep to control nonnative invasive plants.

Masin, who holds a master's degree in resource conservation, and Nelson



investigated how managing weeds through sheep-grazing affects native plant recovery in one of the first studies on sheep and native plants in North America.



“Restoring native plant cover is often the underlying objective behind removal of nonnative invasive plants, not simply controlling the weeds,” Nelson said. “This study helps managers make decisions about when and how to use sheep-grazing as a restoration tool.”

The City of Missoula uses sheep as part of its arsenal of tools to combat invasive plants on the city’s conservation properties. Masin, Nelson and coauthor Morgan Valliant, conservation lands manager for the City of Missoula, set up research plots on the grassland hills above Missoula before setting 400 sheep and five goats free to roam and forage.

The team found that although the sheep grazed on a higher percentage of nonnative than native forbs – plants other than grasses – they did eat natives, and their consumption of natives increased with the decreasing availability of the targeted nonnative plants.

“We found that sheep will eat a larger variety of nonnatives than previously thought, including another problem – invasive sulphur cinquefoil,” Masin said. “But the timing and duration of grazing are very important.”

Active monitoring is required throughout the grazing period to ensure that animals are moved once target weed-removal levels are reached, but before damage occurs to native plants.

Although the City of Missoula has used sheep on the hillsides around the Missoula Valley for more than a decade, not much is known about incorporating sheep-grazing into a restoration program.

“There’s been a fair amount of research on how sheep-grazing can control a handful of problematic invasive weeds, but reducing weeds is often the easiest part of a project like this,” Valliant said.

Valliant said previously most information on using sheep to help restore native plants came from research conducted on city open space lands.

“Eva’s research, and our partnership with the University of Montana, has certainly helped us better understand the non-target effects of this form of weed control,” Valliant said.

The study will be published in the journal Range Ecology and Management in March 2018 and is available online via Science Direct at <http://bit.ly/2rQNhXw>.

For more information on the research, call Masin, library specialist at the U.S. Forest Service Rocky Mountain Research Station Fire Sciences Lab, at 406-329-4820 or email [emasin@fs.fed.us](mailto:emasin@fs.fed.us) or call Valliant at 406-552-6263 or email [mvalliant@ci.missoula.mt.us](mailto:mvalliant@ci.missoula.mt.us).

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# UM Lecture Series to Clear the Air on Wildfires, Criminal Justice Issues

February 06, 2018

**MISSOULA** – When it comes to hot topics like forest fires and criminal justice, the barrage of information from competing interests can bewilder the average news consumer.

University of Montana faculty and researchers will help combat this confusion, and explore how to rely on evidence when navigating what's real versus fake, during the UM Alumni Association's 2018 Community Lecture Series.

"Beyond the Headlines: Clearing the Air with Real Evidence" lectures will be held from 7 to 8:30 p.m. each Tuesday, Feb. 20-March 27, in the University Center Theater. Each event will include a Q-and-A session.

Andrew Larson, associate professor of forest ecology in the W.A. Franke College of Forestry and Conservation, and Anna Sala, professor of plant biology in UM's Division of Biological Sciences, will launch the series Feb. 20 with "The Inevitability of Wildfires: Fire Ecology and Forest Management." The schedule of the remaining lectures is:

- **27:** "The Inevitability of Wildfires: Fire History and the Future of Fire," Phil Higuera, associate professor, fire ecology.

- **March 6:** “Wildfire Implications for Firefighter and Community Health,” Brent Ruby, professor, health and human performance; and Paul Smith, clinical associate professor of medicine, UM School of Public and Community Health Sciences.
- **March 13:** “Fact, Fiction and Unintended Consequences in Criminal Justice Reform,” Jordan Gross, law professor.
- **March 20:** “Making the Case for Evidence-Based Practice in the Montana Juvenile Justice System,” Dusten Hollist, sociology professor.
- **March 27:** “How Do We Know the Truth When the Evidence is Always Changing?” panel discussion featuring Sala along with Chris Comer, College of Humanities and Sciences dean; Tom DeLuca, College of Forestry and Conservation dean; and Dane Scott, ethics associate professor of ethics and Center for Ethics director.

Tickets for the entire lecture series cost \$25 for the public, \$20 for UMAA dues-paying members and \$10 for students. Tickets for individual lectures are \$5 at the door. Purchase tickets online at <http://www.grizalum.org/> or by calling the Office of Alumni Relations at 406-243-5211.

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**Contact:** Angela Weisenburger, on-campus events coordinator, UM Alumni Association, 406-243-6439, [angela.weisenburger@umontana.edu](mailto:angela.weisenburger@umontana.edu).



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## UM News

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# UM Humanities Institute Faculty Lecture Series to Begin Feb. 14

February 06, 2018

**MISSOULA** – The University of Montana Humanities Institute will kick off its 2018 Faculty Lecture Series with “Wildness and the Anthropocene: Notes from Montana” on Wednesday, Feb. 14, in the Dell Brown Room of Turner Hall.

Philosophy Professor Christopher Preston will present from 4 to 5 p.m. The lecture is free and open to the public and includes light refreshments.

The Humanities Institute is dedicated to supporting humanities scholarship across all disciplines, departments and programs at UM and to communicating humanities research on campus and with the public. Led by faculty, the institute brings new and exciting research opportunities to both students and faculty at UM, and it offers public lectures about the projects it supports.

“The Humanities Institute is delighted to begin its 2018 program with a public lecture by Christopher Preston on the relationship between nature, technology and humanity,” said Nathaniel Levtow, Humanities Institute director.

“Preston’s research is contemporary and cutting-edge and blends the sciences and humanities in ways that speak



to us all.”

To learn more about the Humanities Institute, visit <http://hs.umt.edu/hi/>. For more information about the lecture series, call Nathaniel Levtow, UM Humanities Institute director, at 406-243-2845 or email [humanities.institute@umontana.edu](mailto:humanities.institute@umontana.edu).

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**Contact:** Nathaniel Levtow, UM Humanities Institute director, 406-243-2845, [humanities.institute@umontana.edu](mailto:humanities.institute@umontana.edu).



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## UM News

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# Pre-eminent African-American History Scholar to Speak at UM

February 02, 2018

**MISSOULA** – One of the nation's top scholars in African-American history will present the next installment of the 2017-18 President's Lecture Series at the University of Montana.

Darlene Clark Hine is an emeritus Board of Trustees professor of African-American studies and professor of history at Northwestern University. She will present "Black Professionals: Origins of the Civil Rights Movement, 1895-1955" at 8 p.m. Monday, Feb. 12, in collaboration with UM's African-American Studies Program, which celebrates 50 years this month. The lecture, held in the Dennison Theatre, is free and open to the public.

Hine also will lead a seminar the same day titled "The Rights of Citizens: Black Professionals in Medicine and Law, 1895-1954" at 3 p.m. in Gallagher Business School Room 123.





After earning her doctorate in history at Kent State University in 1975, she taught at South Carolina State University, Purdue University and Michigan State University. She recently retired from active teaching.

Hine is a Fellow of the Academy of Arts and Sciences and former president of both the Organization of American Historians and the Southern Historical Association. She served as a Fellow at the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences at Stanford University and at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Studies at Harvard University. In 2013, she was awarded the National Humanities Medal at a White House ceremony.

Hine's courses at Northwestern included Black Women in the 20th Century, Gender and Black Masculinity, the Black Chicago Renaissance, History of Black Women in the Diaspora, and African-American Women and Women in the African Diaspora. She has written or co-edited 15 books.

The President's Lecture Series at UM consists of seven talks throughout the academic year on vital topics by distinguished guest speakers. For more information on the series, visit <http://umt.edu/president/events/lectures/> or call UM history Professor Richard Drake at 406-243-2981.

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**Contact:** Richard Drake, UM history professor and President's Lecture Series organizer, 406-243-2981, [richard.drake@umontana.edu](mailto:richard.drake@umontana.edu).

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## UM News

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# African-American Studies Celebrates 50 Years at UM

February 01, 2018

**MISSOULA** – The University of Montana’s African-American Studies program and the Black Student Union will celebrate their 50-year anniversary with a week of activities Feb. 10-18.

The program will hold a free screening of the 1984 science fiction film “The Brother From Another Planet” at 11 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 10, at the Roxy Theater, located at 718 S. Higgins Ave. Representative of the Afrofuturist tradition, the film explores modern racism by following an escaped enslaved alien as he attempts to elude his captors.

Darlene Clark Hine, one of this country’s preeminent scholars in African-American history, will present the next installment of the UM’s President’s Lecture Series on Monday, Feb. 12. Hine will hold a seminar titled “The Rights of Citizens: Black Professionals in Medicine and Law, 1895-1954” at 3 p.m. in Gallagher Business School Room 123. She then will present the lecture “Black Professionals: Origins of the Civil Rights Movement, 1895-1955” at 8 p.m. in the Dennison Theatre.

The Black Student Union and the African-American Studies program will co-sponsor the Black Solidarity Summit, a student-led and organized symposium, on Sunday, Feb. 18. Black Lives Matter activist Shaun King will highlight the

summit with a talk at 7 p.m. in the University Center Ballroom.

To receive priority seating and participate in the full array of Black Solidary Summit activities, registration is required. Register at <https://www.umt.edu/uc/student-involvement/black-solidarity.php>.

Black Studies at UM began in May 1968. It was the third such program in the country after Cal State Los Angeles and Cal State Long Beach. UM President Robert Pantzer hired founding director Ulysses Doss after UM students Thamani Akbar, Dee Daniels, Herb White and Mace Gray advocated for the creation of a Black Studies program.

Murray Pierce currently serves as the adviser to the Black Student Union with the support of student BSU President Meshayla Cox. Tobin Miller Shearer is the director of African-American Studies at UM. The program graduated its first class of majors last year and has grown five-fold during the past 10 years.

For more information on these African-American Studies 50th anniversary events, call Shearer at 406-662-8227, email [tobin.shearer@umontana.edu](mailto:tobin.shearer@umontana.edu) or visit the program's website at <http://hs.umt.edu/aas/>.

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**Contact:** Tobin Miller Shearer, director, UM African-American Studies, 406-662-8227, [tobin.shearer@umontana.edu](mailto:tobin.shearer@umontana.edu).



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